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TAIWAN: BAD DAY AT THE RACES

In Taiwan's first full legislative elections yesterday, the ruling Kuomintang (KMT) suffered a setback when it won a surprisingly low 53% of the popular vote and 60% of the seats, according to press reports. The opposition Democratic Progressive party, running on a platform emphasizing clean government and politics, turned in its best performance since it was founded, gaining 31% of both votes and seats. Independent winners included Chen Je-nan, expelled by the KMT for Taiwan independence leanings, and Jaw Shaw-kang, former EPA director and highest vote-getter, who blamed the KMT for not listening to the people.

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